The Feast of The Holy Cross 1980

My dear People:

I can think of no lovelier a day on which to date this letter to you than this feast commemorating the Triumph of the Cross. We used to call it the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and our new Prayer Book describes it in the manner used in the dating of this letter to you. However designated, the day is one of joy and triumph for Christians throughout the world. “Faithful cross above all other; one and only noble tree,” we sing during the Good Friday Liturgy. And on Maundy Thursday, in that hymn we used when I was a boy: “The royal banners forward go, The cross shines forth in mystic glow Where he as man, who gave man breath, Now bows beneath the yoke of death.” It is of course the Vexilla Regis, and I wish each year that the Church had retained it in the liturgy for Maundy Thursday. One verse is especially fine:

O tree of beauty, tree most fair,
Ordained those sacred limbs to bear;
Gone is thy shame, each crimsoned bough
Proclaims the King of glory now.

All of which is by way of saying that we Christians boast in the Cross of Jesus Christ. It is not that we glory in suffering, or that ours is in any way a religion which exalts pain. What it is to say is that mankind was lost, that we needed redemption, and that by the power of the Cross the Sinless One took this world’s suffering upon himself. He alone could turn pain into victory, and provide meaning for the suffering of a fallen creation. Holy Cross Day is to Good
Friday what Corpus Christi is to Maundy Thursday: on this day, far removed from our Lenten devotions, we are able to concentrate not on our Lord's sufferings but on the victory of his Cross. We are keeping this feast on Sunday, September 14, this year, because the day is a Feast of Our Lord, and we are remembering as well that monastic Order of men within our American Church which is dedicated in its life to this feast day.

As October begins, and as we approach our own Feast of Dedication here at St. Mary's, I find myself thinking of the several activities in which we are to be involved during the weeks immediately ahead. Spiritually, the most important effort of our parish during this time will be the Holloway Preaching Mission to our diocese, scheduled for Sunday through Wednesday, October 19th-23rd, and being sponsored by various parishes of the diocese, including our own. Our preacher is to be Father Richard Holloway, lately Rector of Old St. Paul's, Edinburgh, Scotland, and just this month the new Rector of The Church of the Advent, Boston. Father Holloway is one of the most gifted preachers of the Anglican Communion, and we are fortunate indeed in his coming to New York. Mission services will be held at St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, and the clergy of all of our participating parishes will be taking part, both in the services themselves and as counsellors and confessors to people who may seek them out. In addition, our own schedule of services at St. Mary's will be reduced on those days in order that our clergy and people may take part in the Mission. Do pray for its success, and plan both on being there and possibly on bringing someone with you.

In addition, of course, there is the work of the Cursillo Movement in our diocese this year. Five cursillo weekends have been set aside for the year, the first two in October and November this fall. I am serving this year as Diocesan Spiritual Director of the movement, and we can be proud that one of our parishioners, Terry Rogers, is serving as diocesan Lay Rector. Thus St. Mary's is on the cutting edge of Catholic Renewal in this Diocese at this time, and this is a tremendously important part of her witness within the Church. Father Ousley made his cursillo last year, as did several of our parishioners, and my hope is more of our people will do so this year. In its deepest sense, cursillo is intended as a means of revitalizing Catholic life within all of our parishes, and every parish that has experienced cursillo is finding this to be wonderfully true. During this past summer, which we will remember for its exceedingly uncomfortable weather, our weekday Mass attendance continued to flourish, especially at our 6:15 Mass, due to some extent to the fine witness of our parish cursillistas.

Which brings me briefly to a consideration of our own interior life here at St. Mary's: the heart of this parish's existence is our daily Mass, and people who really want to grow here spiritually are finding that our weekday schedule provides that depth of spiritual nourishment which can bring us out of lives of isolation into an experience of true Christian community. In a parish like St. Mary's we have a lot of individualists where the Christian life is concerned. Our deepest need is to have our people drawn into a sense of Christian community which will be so strong that it will become the most obvious mark of our parish existence. Only when that is achieved will our parish make the witness which god really expects of us. Our weekday Masses and other activities are the main means whereby this can be created. This fall Father Ousley will be tutoring at the General Seminary, and for that reason he will not be teaching any of our parish courses until after the New Year. We shall miss him in this regard, but are extremely glad of the witness St. Mary's will be making through him at GTS. In the first week of October I shall begin another Adult Inquirers' Class, on Tuesday nights, and during the first week of November I would like, on Wednesday evenings, to inaugurate a course in Christian Spirituality. Information about both these courses will be available shortly.

One other matter concerns our singing of Evensong here on Sunday afternoons. During the summer we have scheduled the Office at 3 p.m. for the convenience of our people, and in order that more people may take part in the services itself. We are continuing through October to schedule the Office for Sunday afternoons, though at 3:30 instead of 3:00, and we will keep the Office at that hour IF enough people from our parish make it possible by their
own interest and attendance at this service. I am very grateful for the cooperation of our Music Director and various members of the choir in this regard.

Finally, I want to say one or two words about Christian Stewardship. You will think that I want to talk about money, and you are right. But please understand this: in the Christian community we can only talk about money within the context of our basic priorities, and those priorities have to do with our attitudes towards the Church’s worship, and towards the building up of Christian community in this place. Having said that I will say, yes, I am concerned about money, and I am concerned that this place not only survive but prosper. My thanks go out to all of you who responded to my appeal in August to reduce our debt. My request at this time is that you take the time to attend one of our Stewardship Meetings in the rectory this October. I ask you to come as part of our family, and I believe in terms of your souls’ health that you deeply need to be here. St. Mary’s will survive in the end because of those who love her. So often we speak of our love for persons and places — but we need to do so to the persons themselves, and certainly to this place, by being here this month.

God bless you all. You remain always in my prayers. Do not, please, forget this place.

Faithfully yours,
EDGAR F. WELLS

The Feast of the Assumption 1980

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Mary’s:

This letter contains some good news, some unwelcome news, and a proposal for you all.

First the good news: during the first six months of this year our pledged income in this parish has increased by 44\% over last year, and the actual income received from all sources has increased by 30\%. During this same period of time, and despite an inflation rate of approximately 16\%, we have increased our actual expenses by only 1\%.

The unwelcome news you are somewhat aware of already. Saint Mary’s is by no means a wealthy parish. Twenty years ago our capital assets amounted to only $600,000, which earned a modest income to help pay our bills. Since that time, Saint Mary’s has found it increasingly necessary to draw money from its capital to pay bills, and, as of July 27, 1980, our capital assets amount to $186,989.77! During the past year and a half there has been a sharp decrease in our expenditures, and everyone in the parish has cooperated marvelously in helping us realize a more modest way of living. Attached to this letter you will find a summary of our financial condition for the first six months of 1980, and, though our position has improved, our operating deficit at mid-year is about $38,000. Hence I am writing you at this time.

My proposal very simply is that I ask each one of you if you will help reduce this deficit by special gifts, or by your own increased pledges, during the months that remain in 1980. This is our most pressing financial concern. It is essential that we balance our books and thus be able to build an endowment in the years ahead that will enable Saint Mary’s to grow in its spiritual life and service without the restrictions imposed by constant deficits.

Thank you for taking time to read this letter. My thanks in its preparation are due to Messrs. Philip W. Callanan, J. Henson Markham, Courtlandt Nicoll, and John E. White, who shared in its composition. There is so much more that I would like to write you about the renewal of life in our congregation, and yet I know that you are aware of this already. Saint Mary’s vocation continues as a witness to the Catholic life of our Episcopal Church. I know that our future is bright. Won’t you help ensure it for us?

Faithfully yours in Christ,
The Reverend Edgar F. Wells
CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN
1980 – Six Month Comparative Operational Statement

RECEIPTS

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1. $1,231.69 was disbursed in July for new prayer books.
2. Organ Renovation for which funds are being raised through a special appeal. $5000 of the raised funds was temporarily invested in capital funds.
3. $8,739.96 was disbursed in July for clergy pensions.
4. $3,851.50 was disbursed in August for the Diocesan Assessment.

MUSIC FOR OCTOBER

October 5 — THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH
Missa Brevis . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Nicholas Jackson (1968)

October 12 — PENTECOST XX
Missa L'ora passa . . . . . . . . . Ludovico da Viadana (1564-1645)

October 19 — PENTECOST XXI
Missa Brevis . . . . . . . . . . . . . McNeil Robinson (1964)

October 26 — PENTECOST XXII
Missa Brevis . . . . . . . . . . . . . Adrian Batten (d. 1637)

Mid-Manhattan Mission
SAINT THOMAS CHURCH
Fifth Avenue at 53rd Street
New York City

A MISSION OF RENEWAL IN CHRIST
Conducted by
The Reverend Richard Holloway
Rector, Church of the Advent
Boston, Massachusetts

Sunday, October 19th, 4:00 p.m.
Monday – Thursday, October 23rd, 6:00 p.m.
St. Mary’s, with other parishes, is sponsoring this Mission.
PARISH NOTES

Enclosed in this issue of AYE, you will find a form for listing names to be remembered at the altar for All Souls, and an envelope for returning this with an All Souls offering. As in the past, the priest will make the repose of their souls his intention at the Solemn Mass on All Souls, and the names will be read at the special requiem scheduled during the month of November. These will be scheduled according to the name of the person requesting the commemorations will be scheduled under the name of the person requesting the commemoration, so be sure to put your name in the space provided. The full schedule of the masses will appear in the November issue of AYE.

In October, Saint Mary’s is joining a number of New York parishes in sponsoring a preaching mission to New York. It will be held at Saint Thomas Church on the evenings of October 19-23. There will be a simple preaching service each evening of the mission at 6 p.m. (Sunday at 4 p.m.). The Rev’d Richard Holloway, the new rector of The Church of the Advent in Boston will be the missioner. We hope that many of our parishioners and friends will be able to attend the mission, and use the opportunity to introduce their friends to the Christian faith. Because of the mission, the usual evening services at Saint Mary’s will not be held on these days.

On October 19 at 1:30, following High Mass and coffee hour, there will be a meeting in St. Joseph’s Hall to organize for the full scale production of T. S. Eliot’s Murder in the Cathedral, to be performed in the nave of St. Mary’s during Lent, next March. This is a project in which actors, musicians, artists, technicians, publicists, fundraisers, and many other willing workers will be needed. The Church of the Transfiguration has been invited to join in the venture. All who are interested in any aspect of this project are urged to attend on October 19th to be part of the basic planning group. In the coming months we will have an opportunity to renew acquaintance with the subtle poetry of Eliot and with the enigmatic Becket of his play. Plan to be a part of it.

The monthly Holy Hour has been moved to the first Thursday of each month. The practice of spending one hour with our Lord as He is present in the Blessed Sacrament is an ancient devotion which has much to recommend itself in the present age. It is a time to be quiet in God’s presence, to know His love, to praise His being. The devotions of the Holy Hour are simple: there is usually a meditation, some prayers and hymns, ending with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

During the summer months we were fortunate to have with us a number of guest preachers. On Corpus Christi, the Rev’d James Taylor, Chaplain at the University of Indiana, preached. The Rev’d Homer Rogers returned again this year from Saint Francis’ Church, Dallas, to preach on the Feast of the Assumption, and the Sunday following. The Rev’d John Milburn of Saint Paul’s Church, Brighton, and head of the Society of Mary, visited to preach on Pentecost XV, September 7th.

During the summer, major work on the organ has been in progress. The pipework and chests of the swell division have been removed for the releathering of the action and cleaning of the action and the pipes. This work has been largely underwritten by people outside the parish interested in the preservation of Saint Mary’s fine organ.

In connection with the annual stewardship program of Saint Mary’s, there will again be a series of meetings for parishioners, this year in the Rectory. The schedule of meetings is:

- Sunday, October 12, 4:30, after Evensong & Benediction
- Wednesday, October 15, 7:00, after 6:15 Mass
- Saturday, October 25, 1:00, after 12:10 Mass
- Sunday, October 26, 1:00, after the Solemn Mass

All parishioners should plan to attend one of the meetings. The details of this year’s stewardship program may be found in Father Wells’ recent letter to the parish.
The Brother Lawrence Guild will sponsor a Parish Tea after the Solemn Mass on the Feast of the Dedication, with the proceeds this year to go toward the refurbishing of Saint Joseph’s Hall. The Feast of the Dedication traditionally marks the opening of the fall “season” at Saint Mary’s, and the Tea – a tradition in its own right – is a splendid opportunity to renew friendships after summer vacations.

Father Wells is continuing his work with the Community of Saint Mary. As Chaplain to the Eastern Province of the Community, he is available each month to the Sisters for Confession and Spiritual Direction. This takes him to Peekskill and Bayside, Long Island, as well as to the House of the Redeemer in Manhattan.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

RECEIVED BY CANONICAL TRANSFER

"And they continued steadfastly in the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."

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<td>June 16</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Mr. Francis David Webb</td>
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<td>July 2</td>
<td>Eugenia Patterson Ray</td>
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<td>Anthony George Woodruff</td>
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A Prayer for our Mission

Almighty and most gracious Father, who didst send thy blessed Son Jesus Christ for our salvation: Send thy blessing, we pray thee, on our Mission of Renewal in Christ. Use it for thy glory and our good. Speak mightily and graciously through thy servant Richard and those who work with him. Seek and save those who are lost; revive those who believe. Forgive in us all that is wrong; establish in us all that is good. And make us glad to serve thee in thy holy Church in the communion of thy Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SAINT MARY’S PEOPLE RESPOND TO MISSIONARY ASKING – Responding to a request from Father Wells early last summer, St. Mary’s people responded generously in support of the Holloway Preaching Mission this October, and in a selective way of our diocesan Venture in Mission program. Our parish gift to the Holloway Preaching Mission amounts to $755.00. By way of supporting and amplifying our people’s support of Venture in Mission, the Executive Committee of our Board of Trustees agreed to match dollar for dollar the giving of our people, and did so from the Stout Fund, a legacy administered by our Board of Trustees which may be used solely for the relief of the “poor, the sick, and the needy.” Our total giving to Venture in Mission is as follows:

- CHINATOWN MISSION: $140.00
- ST. MATTHEW & ST. TIMOTHY: $360.00
- HAITIAN WORK: $307.00

CONTRIBUTIONS to AVE are gratefully acknowledged:

- Mrs. W. K. Earle, $50
- Mr. Norman Olson, $5
- Mr. James Hawfield, $5
- Mr. Ward A. Follette, $10
- The Rev’d Roy Andrew Miller, $30
- Mr. Robert B. Riley, Jr., $5
- The Very Rev’d Harold F. Lemoine, $5
- The Rev’d Frederick Hill, $10
- Mr. W. Steven Woodward, $10
- Mr. E. M. Johnson, $10
- Mr. Joseph S. Miller, $5
- The Rev’d Clifford B. Carr, $10
- Mr. William P. Wolf, $5
- Amelia E. Fletcher, $10
- Mr. Edgar Wilson, $50
- The Right Rev’d Msgr. George J. Murphy, $20
- Captain & Mrs. Robert J. Jennings, $6
- Miss Dorothy Hahn, $10
- The Rev’d R. J. Bunday, $10
- Ida R. Marshall, $6
- Mr. Dirk Tump, $15
- The Rev’d Thomas M. Greene, $10
- Barbara Clarke, $6
- Mr. William C. Kriptopchuk, $10
- Mr. Larry R. Sipe, $5
- Mr. & Mrs. Milton F. Showell, $10
- Mr. Steven A. Haws, $5
- Mr. Francis David Webb, $6
- Mr. Merrill N. Van Slyke, $12
- The Rev’d James E. Merold, $10
- The Rev’d Robert L. Jacoby, $8
- Jane L. Wolfe, $5
- Nancy Foster, $6
- Robert H. Stewart, $6
- Mr. James A. Aune, $15
- Mr. Lewis C. Popham, III, $10
CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

1. W. St. Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, c. 530
2. Th. Holy Guardian Angels
   Holy Hour, 7
3. F. St. Therese of Lisieux, Religious, 1897
4. Sa. St. Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226
5. Su. THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH
   Solemn Mass with Procession, 11
6. M. St. Bruno, Abbot of La Grande Chartreuse, 1101
7. Tu.
8. W. Requiem
9. Th. Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, 1253
10. F. St. Paulinus, First Archbishop of York, 644
11. Sa. Of Our Lady
12. Su. PENTECOST XX
13. M. St. Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066
14. Tu. Requiem
15. W. St. Teresa of Avila, Doctor, 1582
16. Th.
17. F. St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch & Martyr, c. 115
18. Sa. SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
19. Su. PENTECOST XXI
   Holloway Mission: no afternoon services
20. M. Requiem
    Holloway Mission: no evening services
21. Tu. Holloway Mission: no evening services
22. W. Holloway Mission: no evening services
23. Th. SAINT JAMES OF JERUSALEM
   Holloway Mission: no evening services
24. F. St. Raphael the Archangel
25. Sa. Of Our Lady
26. Su. PENTECOST XXII
27. M.
28. Tu. SAINT SIMON AND SAINT JUDE, APOSTLES
29. W. James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, & his companions, Martyrs, 1885
30. Th. Requiem
31. F. Vigil of All Saints
   Evening Prayer, 5:30
   Solemn Mass & Procession of All Saints, 6

AVAILABLE FROM THE BOOKSHOP

A Tribute to Saint Mary’s, Dr. Macquarrie’s articles on Benediction, Stations, and Saint Mary’s: 50 cents (mailing 15 cents)
Music at Saint Mary’s, James L. Palsgrove’s historical review, with music lists: 50 cents (mailing 26 cents)
Worship in Spirit and in Truth, papers at the 1970 liturgical conference on the then Proposed Prayer Book: reduced to 40 cents (mailing 60 cents)
Picture postcards: interior and exterior of Saint Mary’s, in color: 15 cents each (mailing in envelope, 15 cents)
1980 Ordo Calendar, with the days in liturgical color, with a picture of the Lady Shrine and High Altar: reduced to $1.00 (mailing 50 cents)

New York State residents, add state/local tax.

RECORDS FROM SAINT MARY’S MUSIC FUND

Alessandro Scarlatti’s Messa di Sancta Cecilia, recorded by the Schola Cantorum of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin under the direction of McNeil Robinson:
Marc-Antoine Charpentier’s Messe pour le Samedy Pasques. A new recording by the Schola Cantorum of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin under the direction of McNeil Robinson:

Each recording is $6.95. (Postage and handling, $1.00 – New York city and state residents please add appropriate sales tax). Proceeds from the sales of these two records benefit the music program of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin. Please make checks, for these two records only, payable to the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin Music Fund.

Annual contributions of five dollars or more are asked from those who do not make other contributions to the parish and wish to receive AVE. Please notify us promptly of change of address.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CLASSES are held for study and discussion at several times during the week. On Sunday at 9:50, there is a discussion of the Sunday propers with Father Ousley. An adult inquirers' class meets following the 6:15 Mass on Tuesday with Father Wells. Beginning November 5th, Father Wells will teach a course on Christian Spirituality based on readings of several major Christian writers. This will meet Wednesday's, after the 6:15 Mass.

*  
SAINT VINCENT'S GUILD

ACOLYTES at the high altar on Sundays and feasts, and those who serve on weekdays. Communicants who wish to serve should speak to the Clergy.

*  
SAINT RAPHAEL'S GUILD

USHERS at parish services, Sunday mornings and evenings, and on feasts. Communicants who can help should speak to the Head Usher.

*  
SAINT MARTIN'S GUILD

TOURS of the church are conducted after Sunday Solemn Mass. Volunteers will be trained for this mission of welcome.

*  
BROTHER LAURENCE GUILD

KITCHEN helpers for refreshments after Solemn Mass and for occasions when meals are served. Volunteers are needed for this mission of fellowship.

*  
SAINT MARY'S GUILD

SACRED VESSELS AND VESTMENTS are cared for by communicants working together on Saturday afternoons. Speak to the Clergy.

*  
DEVOTIONAL SOCIETIES

SAINT MARY'S WARDS of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, the Guild of All Souls, and the Society of Mary are open to all communicants.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS

Morning Prayer ................. 10:30 a.m.
Mass .................... 8:00, 9:00, 10:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.
Church School ................. 9:50 a.m.
Solemn Mass with Sermon .......... 11:00 a.m
Evensong and Benediction .......... 3:30 p.m.

WEEKDAYS

Morning Prayer ................. 7:40 a.m. (11:45 a.m. Saturdays)
Mass daily .................... 8:00 a.m.*, 12:10 and 6:15 p.m.
*Except Saturdays

Evening Prayer .................. 6:00 p.m.

FIRST THURSDAY

Holy Hour ...................... 7 p.m.

Other services during the week and on festivals
as announced on the preceding Sunday

CONFESSIONS

DAILY, 12:40
FRIDAY, 5-6 p.m.
SATURDAY, 2-3 and 5-6 p.m.
SUNDAY, 10:30 - 10:50 a.m.

ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS

October 5  —  DEDICATION, Rufus McIntosh
October 12 —  PENTECOST XX, Edgar Wilson & Hattie Wilson
October 18 —  SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST, Wallace & Florence Brackett
October 19 —  PENTECOST XXI
October 26 —  PENTECOST XXII, McGrane Family
DIRECTORY

CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
139 West 46th Street, New York
(East of Times Square, between 6th and 7th Avenues)

Church open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
except Saturday, open from 11 a.m.

RECTORY
144 West 47th Street, New York
THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, Rector
THE REVEREND DAVID A. OUSLEY, Curate
(212) 757-6750

PARISH OFFICE
145 West 46th Street, New York, New York 10036
Office hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday - Friday, except legal holidays
(212) 757-6750

MISSION HOUSE
133 West 46th Street, New York
Mr. Otto Meyn, Sexton
Mr. Martin Wechselblatt
(212) 757-3962

The Evangelical and Catholic Mission
(212) 398-9745

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
New York City

CLERGY

THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, Rector
THE REVEREND DAVID A. OUSLEY
THE REVEREND JOHN L. SCOTT
THE REVEREND DONALD L. GARFIELD, Rector Emeritus

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, President
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CHARLES ARTHUR SCHAEFER

Parish founded 1868
Church built 1894

REMEMBER SAINT MARY’S IN YOUR WILL

BEQUESTS may be made in the following form:
"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Society of the Free Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, a corporation organized and existing under the Laws of the State of New York, and having its principal office at 145 West 46th Street, New York City, ... [here state the nature or amount of the gift]."

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin depends on the offerings of parishioners and friends. Pledge envelopes may be obtained from the Parish Secretary. Your support is appreciated.